

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)  
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

## (#172) The Proverbs of Solomon: What To Do When It's "Reigning"

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**) to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and **Proverbs 10:1 - 24:34** are randomly written, as if they were Judgments Solomon made about individual cases brought to him for Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**), or simply God-given explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

This group of proverbs is good for understanding more about God-ordained government (**Romans 13:1-7**). The timelessness of these rules is seen in Christians who:

Having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation. Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men-- as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. (**1 Peter 2:12-16**)

- **As the heavens for height and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. (Proverbs 25:3)** Citizens outside of government circles may never fully comprehend its decisions, as "the heavens" and "the earth" may not completely be understood.
- **Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king, and do not stand in the place of the great; 7 For it is better that he say to you, 'Come up here,' than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince, whom your eyes have seen. (Proverbs 25:6-7)** This is a good social rule to apply to almost any situation, as Jesus applied it spiritually in [Luke 14:7-11](#).
- **By long forbearance a ruler is persuaded, and a gentle tongue breaks a bone. (Proverbs 25:15)** It may take many appeals to be heard, but a ruler's quick response may come from irritation and anger. Patience is a virtue (**2 Peter 1:5-8**).

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.*



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- **Many seek the ruler's favor, but justice for man comes from the LORD. (Proverbs 29:26)** Whatever government may decide, whether Supreme Court decision, Presidential Executive Order, or Congressional Legislation, the ultimate judgment of human behavior is in the hand of God only:  
For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

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